

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL
March 17, 2015**

The City Council also sits as the Lemon Grove Housing Authority, Lemon Grove Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and Lemon Grove Successor Agency

Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Vasquez reported that Mayor Sessom is out of town attending to a family matter.

Members present: George Gastil, Jerry Jones, Jennifer Mendoza, and Racquel Vasquez.
Members absent: Mary Sessom.

City Staff present: Graham Mitchell, City Manager; Dave DeVries, Principal Planner; Carol Dick, Development Services Director; Daryn Drum, Division Fire Chief; Leon Firsht, City Engineer; Susan Garcia, City Clerk; James P. Lough, City Attorney; Mike James, Public Works Director; Rick Sitta, Fire Chief; and Cathleen Till, Finance Director.

Public Comment

Leticia Oliver commented on bee keeping adjacent to her residence.

John L. Wood commented on street light vandalism and illegal trash dumping.

Larry Vlassoff commented on bee keeping and expressed interest in residential energy producing windmills.

Larry McGill commented on bee keeping in the City.

Brenda Hammond commented on law enforcement, City issues, and crosswalk lighting.

1. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

February 17, 2015 Regular Meeting

March 3, 2015 Regular Meeting

B. Ratification of Payment Demands

C. Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda

D. Regional Transportation Congestion Improvement Plan Fee Amendment

Action: Motion by Councilmember Gastil, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez
Absent: Sessom

Resolution No. 2015-3325: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Amending the Regional Transportation Congestion Improvement Plan Fee

2. Public Hearing for Review of the 2014 General Plan Annual Progress Report

Dave DeVries explained that State law requires cities to annually review, conduct a public hearing, and authorize the submission of a General Plan Annual Progress Report (Report) to the State.

Mr. DeVries provided a presentation of the Report including the status of the General Plan implementation and the progress towards meeting regional housing needs.

Public Speaker(s)

Lorenzo Higley, Communities Against Substance Abuse, praised the City for protecting the health of Lemon Grove's citizens.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Gastil, to adopt the resolution passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez

Absent: Sessom

Resolution No. 2015-3322: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove Accepting the 2014 General Plan Annual Progress Report and Directing Staff to Submit the Report to the State of California in Accordance with Government Code Section 65400(A)(2)

3. Award Contracts for the Sewer Capital Improvements Project

Leon Firsht reported that in support of the City's Five-Year Capital Improvement Program, staff advertised a notice inviting bids for "Sewer Capital Improvements Project: Cured in Place Pipe Lining". In addition to the lining, the project proposes to install new cleanouts and a new manhole.

On January 22, 2015, bid documents for the project were advertised in the East County Californian, online at eBidboard, and on the City's website. A voluntary pre-bid meeting was held on February 11, 2015; three potential bidders attended. On February 25, staff received four sealed bids.

The engineer's estimate for this project was \$329,200. The low bid was submitted by Nu Line Technologies, LLC for \$189,946. After staff reviewed Nu Line Technologies, LLC's project work history, contacted all listed references, and reviewed its construction license, staff concluded that Nu Line Technologies, LLC is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Staff also requested and received a proposal from Dokken Engineering, one of the City's as-needed engineering consultants, for construction phase services which include engineering review of submittals and construction inspections. Ninyo & Moore, the City's as-needed geotechnical consultant, will provide geotechnical and material testing services for the project. Staff reviewed the proposals submitted by Dokken Engineering and Ninyo & Moore for the project and deemed it a reasonable cost for the stated services.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

Action: Motion by Board Member Jones, seconded by Board Member Mendoza, to adopt the resolutions passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez
Absent: Sessom

Resolution No. 2015-270: Resolution of the Lemon Grove Sanitation District Board of Directors Awarding a Contract for the Sewer Capital Improvements Project

Resolution No. 2015-271: Resolution of the Lemon Grove Sanitation District Awarding a Professional Services Contract for the Sewer Capital Improvements Project

4. Risk Management Program Update

Mike James stated that the City of Lemon Grove has been a member of the San Diego Pooled Insurance Program Authority (SANDPIPA) since 1986. SANDPIPA was established to enable its current 12 member cities to secure excess liability and property insurance coverage at economical rates.

The City's coverage against tort liability claims consists of three layers. The first layer is the City's self-insured retention (SIR), which is currently set at \$125,000. The second layer is coverage provided by SANDPIPA, which is currently set at \$2.5 million. The third layer is an additional \$45 million in excess of insurance coverage, for a total of \$47.5 million of excess liability coverage.

SANDPIPA is a small organization, with only one full-time employee, a General Manager. But, because SANDPIPA is small, SANDPIPA's corporate knowledge is confined primarily to the General Manager. In 2015, the General Manager announced that she will retire in 2016. With the pending retirement of the General Manager, SANDPIPA began to explore strategic business plan options for the future.

Some of the member agencies also initiated research to explore alternatives and test the market. Recently, 9 out of the 12 member agencies submitted notices of intent to withdraw. Lemon Grove was one of the member agencies. Should all of these members withdraw from SANDPIPA it would no longer be a viable excess insurance provider. Pursuant to the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement, if three-fourths of the cities withdraw, the JPA agreement would be terminated and the JPA would continue to exist for the sole purpose of disposing of all claims, distribution of assets, and all other functions necessary to close out the affairs of the JPA.

It is important to note that if a few of the larger members, such as Chula Vista, Escondido, and Oceanside leave SANDPIPA, the costs may increase Lemon Grove's annual premium and decrease the stability of SANDPIPA for the remaining members making SANDPIPA no longer an affordable risk management option.

There are several municipal joint powers insurance programs that operate in Southern California, including San Diego County. These include the Public Entity Risk Management Authority (PERMA) of which La Mesa is a current member, CSAC-Excess Insurance Authority (CSAC-EIA) of which El Cajon is a member, and the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CALJPIA) to which Poway and San Marcos belong.

It is important to note that Chula Vista, the first member that submitted a notice of intent to withdraw from SANDPIPA, obtained a preliminary quote or “indication” from CSAC-EIA. Subsequently, the insurance broker for SANDPIPA worked with CSAC-EIA to conduct an analysis to provide indications for all 12 member cities. Based on the outcome, it was noted that cost savings could be achieved by a number of members if they withdrew from SANDPIPA and joined CSAC-EIA.

At this time, the SANDPIPA Board is reviewing these options in greater detail. Staff may remove the notice of intent to withdrawal if it is determined that the SANDPIPA Board needs additional time to analyze options. Staff will keep the City Council updated as needed regarding any significant developments. In the interim, staff will continue to seek quotes from other providers.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

5. TransNet Amendment – Regional Transportation Improvement Program 2014

Leon Firsht stated that every two years the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) adopts a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). The current RTIP (2014) began July 1, 2014 and encompasses Fiscal Years (FY) 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Prior to each RTIP, staff estimates the amount of TransNet funds to be spent. With the 2012 RTIP coming to a conclusion, due to the estimation and reimbursement accounting process used by SANDAG, staff needs to update the City’s TransNet budgets. In addition to the update, staff is requesting an increase in TransNet funds.

Lastly, the proposed 2014 RTIP which encompasses FY 2015-19 has been submitted to SANDAG and is currently pending approval once the City Council approves a resolution.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza, to adopt the resolutions passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez
Absent: Sessom

Resolution No. 2015-3323: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Approving the City of Lemon Grove Revised TransNet Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 and Authorizing Expenditures Thereto

Resolution No. 2015- 3324: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California, Adopting the TransNet Local Street Improvement Program of Projects for Fiscal Years 2015 through 2019

City Council Oral Comments and Reports on Meetings Attended at the Expense of the City. (GC 53232.3 (d))

Councilmember Jones attended SANDAG, Metro Wastewater, and MTS meetings, and is participating in a law enforcement citizen's academy. He added that the East County Chamber of Commerce will be conducting a trash pick-up on March 21 from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Councilmember Mendoza attended the Water Education Conference for Latio Leaders, League of California Cities luncheon, Lemon Grove clergy breakfast, HealZone, Soroptimist, and Gillespie Field Development Council meetings.

Councilmember Gastil reported that the LOSSAN meeting was canceled.

Mayor Pro Tem Vasquez attended the Salute to Women Leaders in the 79th Assembly District.

City Manager and Department Director Reports

The City Manager and Department Directors thanked Leon Firsh for his years of service to the City of Lemon Grove.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Housing Authority, Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and the Lemon Grove Successor Agency the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Susan Garcia

Susan Garcia, City Clerk